

**COUNTY COMMISSION** 

June 27, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski Commissioner Michael J. Copps Commissioner Robert M. McDowell Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

Franklin County, Missouri, is a growing community that both celebrates our history and is planning for our future. Historic and quaint towns such as Washington, Union, and Sullivan along with the natural beauty of the area attract many people to the county both as tourists and as new residents.

Much of Franklin County is rural, but as we grow into the future, we know there are important infrastructure needs for which we must prepare. One of the most crucial is ensuring that the residents, businesses, and institutions of our county have access to the high-speed mobile broadband networks that will allow us to strengthen our economy and provide the type of services necessary to flourish in the future.

The proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile USA will result in a major investment -- a private investment -- into expanding access high-speed wireless broadband to over 97% of America. Rural communities and smaller cities like we have in Franklin County would be major beneficiaries, as many of these areas currently lack access to the type of high-speed broadband available in urban centers.

This merger would result in a private investment to achieve a public policy goal. It would greatly benefit counties like Franklin and communities like it all over the country. It would bring jobs and economic investment to underserved areas. In short, it would be a good thing for Franklin County and a good thing for rural America. For these reasons, I ask that you approve this merger.

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JOHN E. GRIESHEIMER Presiding Commissioner of the County Commission

TERRY O. WILSON
Commissioner 1st District

ANN G. L. SCHROEDER Commissioner 2nd District

DEBBIE DOOR
Clerk of the County Commission

Sincerely,

John Griesheimer, Presiding Commissioner

Franklin County